

A J U S T
V I E W
O F T H E
P R O C E E D I N G S
O F T H E
G E N E R A L A S S E M B L Y
O F T H E
C H U R C H o f S C O T L A N D,

With Respect to the AUGMENTATION of
Smaller STIPENDS, with REASONS in
Support of it, and ANSWERS to the prin-
cipal OBJECTIONS that are urged against
it.

To which are ADDED,

Two PAPERS of the COMMITTEE of the GENE-
RAL ASSEMBLY; one containing an Account
of the State of most of the Livings in *Scot-
land*; and the other, A Calculation of the
Necessary Expence of a Minister's Family in
that Church.

L O N D O N:

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J U S T V I E W
O F T H E
P R O C E E D I N G S
O F T H E
G E N E R A L A S S E M B L Y of the
C H U R C H of S C O T L A N D , with
r e s p e c t to the A u g m e n t a t i o n s of
s m a l l e r S t i p e n d s , &c .

U P O N many pressing Instructions 1749.
and Recommendations to the Ge-
neral Assembly of the Church of
Scotland, by Presbyteries and Synods, con-
cerning the Reasonableness and Necessity
of an Augmentation of Stipends (the Ori-
ginals wherof are in the Hands of the
Commissioners from the General Assembly)
the Assembly unanimously agreed to appoint
a Committee " to take that Matter under
" Consideration, and to make a Report to
B " the

“ the next General Assembly, in order to
 “ their making Application to Parliament
 “ for an Augmentation of Stipends ; or
 “ providing such other Remedy as to
 “ them should seem meet.”

1750.

* See

Appendix
Num. I.

† See

Appendix
Num. II

The said Committee having received
 attested Accounts of the Value of almost all
 the Livings in *Scotland* *, and having
 made a Calculation of the necessary Ex-
 pence of a Minister’s Family †, gave their
 Report this Year to the General Assembly ;
 who after advising thereupon, came to
 the following Resolution : “ The General
 “ Assembly did agree, without a Vote, to
 “ apply to Parliament next Session, and
 “ to represent the distressed Circumstances
 “ of many Ministers of this Church, by
 “ reason of the Smallness of their Stipends,
 “ praying such Relief, as they in their
 “ Wisdom shall think meet. And ap-
 “ pointed a Committee to prepare a Plan
 “ of the Method, in which this Affair is
 “ to be conducted.”

Upon a Report from this Committee,
 the Assembly did, at a subsequent Meeting,
 come to the following Resolution, “ The
 “ General Assembly considering the di-
 “ stressed Circumstances of many Mini-
 “ sters of this Church, arising from the
 “ Smallness of their Stipends ; the Ex-
 “ pence

“ pence of ProcesSES (or Suits) for Aug-
 “ mentation, and the dilatory Payment
 “ of Stipends ; do resolve on an humble
 “ Application to be made to the King
 “ and Parliament, for the following Pur-
 “ poses.

“ That in raising Summonses, for I.
 “ Modification, Locality, or Augmenta-
 “ tion of Stipends” (or in raising Suits for
 having the Quantum of Stipends deter-
 mined, and proportioned upon the several
 Land Owners) “ instead of the usual Me-
 “ thod of Summoning by a Messenger,
 “ it shall be sufficient, that a general Ci-
 “ tation be made by every Parish Clerk,
 “ from his Desk upon a Lord’s Day, im-
 “ mediately after Divine Service in the
 “ Forenoon ; and that Letters be written
 “ by the Moderator of the Presbytery to
 “ the absent Heretors (or Land Owners)
 “ excepting such as are forth of the King-
 “ dom, who are to be summoned by a
 “ Messenger at the Mercat Cross of *Edin-*
 “ *burgh*, Pier and Shore of *Leith*.

“ That it shall be in the Power of the II.
 “ Moderator, with Consent of the Pres-
 “ bytery, to pursue for Modification, Lo-
 “ cality or Augmentation, whether there
 “ be a Minister settled in the Parish, or
 “ the Parish be vacant.

III. " That Minister's Stipends, if not paid
 " within the Year, shall bear Interest from
 " the first half Year after they become
 " due.

IV. " That Power be given to the Com-
 " mission of Teinds (or Lords of Session)
 " to suppress Parishes which they find
 " not proper to be continued seporate
 " Parishes, and to annex them to one or
 " more of the adjacent Parishes: That
 " the Commission have also a Power to
 " alter the Division of Parishes, in a View
 " to divide them as they shall see Cause.
 " The General Assembly instructs those
 " who are to be commisioned by them
 " most humbly to pray for Relief in the
 " Premises, and for such further Relief
 " as to his Majesty, and the two Houses
 " of Parliament, shall, in their great Wis-
 " dom, seem meet. And it was declared
 " by the Moderator from the Chair, to be
 " the Mind of the Assembly, that by this
 " last Clause it was understood, that the
 " Commissioners to Parliament might
 " apply for an Increase of the Minimum.
 " And the Assembly resolved, without
 " a Vote, to send three Ministers and one
 " Elder, as their Commissioners, to apply,
 " in their Name, to the King and Par-
 " liament, for the Purposes abovemention-
 " ed,

“*ed, viz.* the Reverend Mr. *Robert Patoun*, Moderator of this Assembly,
“*Mr. Patrick Cummin*, Professor of Church History, and one of the Ministers of *Edinburgh* ; Mr. *William Steele*, Minister at *Sorn* ; and Mr. *David Dalrymple*, Advocate, ruling Elder.”

It is humbly apprehended, that no reasonable Objection can be offered to the four Articles above-mentioned, being moved and proposed in the Committee of the General Assembly by these of the Landed Interest, who were Members of it, and agreed to in the Assembly, without a Division.

The granting of the first and most material of these four Articles, *viz.* The Manner of Summoning, would give some Relief, by lessening the heavy Expence of raising and carrying on a Suit for Augmentation of Stipends ; (the Benefit whereof, if obtained, the Frailty of human Life makes very uncertain). At the same Time, this would be no Burden upon the Landed Interest, and would be no more than the extending the Law with respect to Manors, Glebes and Grafs, to this particular Case, of an Augmentation of Stipends.

The

The Instruction of the greatest Moment towards procuring an effectual Remedy, is that, whereby the Commissioners are directed to apply for such further Relief, *as to his Majesty, and the two Houses of Parliament, shall in their great Wisdom seem meet*: Meaning, that such Application should be directed towards an *Increase of the Mininum*, or of the lowest Rate of Stipends now established. To this, several Landed Gentlemen, Members of the Assembly, consented; against this no Minister protested, though several Members, of the Landed Interest, did. And, therefore, to justify the Reasonableness and Necessity of increasing the Minimum, the following Considerations are humbly offered.

That the Ministers of Religion should have a decent Maintenance, is admitted. The Tythes are the ordinary Fund whence the Maintenance of the Ministers of the Church of *Scotland* has been constantly drawn, being by this Statute declared *the proper Patrimony of the Church*.

Act 10.
Par. 1567.

After the Reformation, the Land Estates of the Popish Clergy, and all the Tythes of *Scotland* were escheated to the Crown; and the Sovereign made Grants of the greatest Part of the Land Estates. Such

Such Church Lands as had not been granted away, were by this Statute annexed to the Crown ; but all the Tythes were expressly excepted by the said Statute ; because out of them the Ministers of the Church were to be supported.

Their Provision out of the Tythes was, for a long Time, uncertain and precarious ; till by Act of Parliament in this Year, Commissioners were appointed, with Power to ascertain a certain Stipend out of the Tythes of each Parish. And it was thereby enacted, That the least and meanest Stipend, should be five Chalders of Victual, or 500 Merks ; *i. e.* 27*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* Sterl.

This lowest Rate of Stipend was increased by this Statute, whereby it was enacted, *That the Minimum should be eight Chalders of Victual, where Victual is payed, or proportionally in Silver and Victual, as the Commissioners (to be appointed by Parliament for that Purpose) shall appoint at the Settling of the Kirk.* That the Minimum, or lowest Rate of Stipend, was fixed at eight Chalders of Victual, or its Value in Money, is evident from the said Statute, *which appoints the Proportion of Money where Victual cannot be had ; to be according to the Estate of the Country where*

the Payment of the Stipend shall occur.
 And yet, in Fact, 800 Merks Scots (or 44*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* $\frac{1}{3}$) has been interpreted, and frequently given, as a sufficient Equivalent for the eight Chalders of Victual, which are of much greater Value; inconsistently with the true Meaning and Spirit of the Statute.

Since the said Statute, One hundred and seventeen Years ago, no Law has been made for any further Increase of the Minimum.

Act 17. It was declared, That the fifth Part of *same Par.* the Land Rent, should be reckoned the Tythe; and a Privilege was thereby given to every Land Owner, to purchase his own Tythes, at the Rate of nine Years Purchase, from the Titulars (or Grantees of the Crown.) But the Tythes thus purchased, were still chargeable with a competent Provision or Stipend to the Minister.

The Benefices of Bishops in *Scotland*, remained entire till Episcopacy was abolished at the Revolution; when their Tythes and Rents were vested in the Crown, where they still remain, and are at his Majesty's Disposal; excepting some small Parcels, which have been granted for endowing Colleges,

Colleges, augmenting a few Stipends, and erecting some Schools.

By this Statute the Power of Presentation to vacant Churches, was taken from Patrons, and the Call and Choice of Ministers given to Heretors (or Land-Owners) being Protestants, and to Elders. But in Lieu and Recompence of the Right of Presentation, thereby taken away from Patrons, it is by the said Act declared, That besides other Considerations, the Right of such Tythes of the said Parishes as were not granted by the King, to the respective Land Owners of the Parish, should, in virtue of that Act, belong to the Patrons: And a Privilege was given to the Land Owners of purchasing the Tythes granted by that Statute, at the Rate of six Years Purchase; but with the Burden always of the Ministers Stipends, and of such Augmentation of Stipends, Prorogations, and Erections of new Kirks, as should be found just and expedient.

The Patrons are still possessed of this Right to the Tythes, notwithstanding they were restored by the *Act 12 Ann.* to their Right of Presentation.

From this State, it could be made evident, that the Ministers of the Church of *Scotland*, are not in Possession of near one

Half of the Tythes; and that the Residue is either in the Hands of the Crown, or its Grantees; of Patrons, or of Land-holders, who have purchased them at low Value. And if some Tythes have been purchased at a higher Rate than nine Years Value, the Purchasers have the Venders Warranty against the future Augmentation of Ministers Stipends, with which the Tythes so purchased are always burdened.

That the Minimum, or lowest Rate of Stipends, provided for Ministers One hundred and seventeen Years ago, *viz.* Eight Chalders of Victual, or, as it has been interpreted, 44*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* $\frac{1}{3}$. should be increased, by Authority of Parliament, out of this, or some other Fund, will appear reasonable and necessary, when it is considered, that the Value of Money in *Scotland* is, since the Year 1633, decreased, at least, one Half; for then it bore an Interest of 10 *per Cent.* but is now sunk under Five. That the Expence of Living is greatly increased, by the growing Riches of the Country; and the richer the Country grows, the Clergy become the poorer.

Since the happy Union, the Trade and Commerce of *North Britain* has been greatly

greatly extended, and Manufactures and Agriculture improved. And by this Increase of Wealth, the Expence of Living has, since that Period, rose in a much more remarkable Proportion in *Scotland*, than it has done in *England*. The Clergy are the only Set of Men whose Income does not bear a Proportion with the growing Expence of the Times: Land Rents, including Tythes, Salaries of publick Employments, the Profits of Tradesmen and Mechanicks, the Wages of Servants, and the Expence of Education, have been, and are still upon the rising hand: But the Clergy alone, are so far from reaping any Advantage by the Wealth flowing in upon their Country, that they are truly impoverished by it. By the Nature of their Office (for the faithful Discharge whereof, they can appeal to all who know them) they are excluded from every Advantage, other than what their Stipend affords them, the highest of which yield no more than a decent Maintenance to their Families, and are scarcely sufficient for the Education of their Children, for supporting the Dignity of their Character, and rendering them useful to the Interests of Religion, Learning and Liberty.

If the highest Livings, amounting to about $139 l.$ *per Annum*, (of which there are only sixteen, and these in the City of *Edinburgh*) are no more than sufficient for the valuable Purposes of their Ministry, how low and mean must the Condition be, of more than the greatest Part of their Number, who have not near the Half of that Sum!

It is a Matter of great Concern, to find Objections has been raised against what appears so reasonable and necessary, as the Increase of the Minimum; the greatest of which is, the Opposition made to this Proposal, by the Noblemen and Gentlemen of *Scotland*. But it must be observed, that tho' this Opposition has appeared more general than was apprehended, yet as the Tythes, for the most Part, are in their Possession, it cannot be surprising, that they should be unwilling to quit with any of them. This has too evidently appeared, almost in every Application made by particular Ministers to the Court of Session, for an Augmentation of Stipend; it has been the general Practice of the Land Owners, to give all possible Opposition to the obtaining of such Augmentation; and to endeavour to obstruct the Court in the Exercise of their discretionary

ary Power, in augmenting particular Livings. It is therefore to be hoped, That an Opposition arising from Regard to their own Interest, and which states them Parties in this Question, will not be regarded by a wise and candid Parliament, any further than to give an impartial Ear to the Reasons offered for that Opposition; especially, when this Opposition, considered merely as such, must, from its Nature and Foundation, always continue; and if successful, render the distressed Circumstances of the Clergy, altogether, and for ever, irremediable.

It is to be hoped, the Opposition given by the worthy and well-affected Land Owners, proceeds from a mistaken Apprehension, that an Increase of the Minimum, from eight to ten Chalders of Victual, or the Value thereof, to every Minister, as proposed in the last General Assembly, would amount to no less than 20,000*l.* *per Annum*; whereas it can be made appear, from a just and exact Calculation, that the yearly Sum of 8000*l.* would abundantly answer that Purpose: From which, also, a considerable Abatement might be made by the proposed Annexation of small Parishes to those in their Neighbourhood; For it was never intend-

ed, that small Parishes, where the Tythes are exhausted by the Incumbents Stipends, should be supplied from the free or surplus Tythes remaining in the Hands of Land Owners of any neighbouring Parish. And were the Minimum raised to ten Chalders, it would only be an Addition of two Chalders in the Space of One hundred and seventeen Years. And notwithstanding the remarkable Increase of necessary Expence since that Period, it would be an Augmentation only of near 17*l. per Ann.* to some Ministers, where the Victual and Living is dearest ; of about 13*l.* where Victual and Living is cheaper ; and of about 10*l.* in the cheapest Parts of the Country.

But tho' such an Increase of the Minimum by two Chalders more than is provided by Law, is, in the Opinion of the Church of *Scotland*, no more than a competent and moderate Maintenance, yet the General Assembly have not instructed their Commissioners to insist upon that particular Quantum ; but only to apply, with great Submission, to the Wisdom of Parliament, to give *such Relief as they shall think meet.*

Another Objection is, That the Court of Session, as Commissioners for Plantation

tion of Kirks, have Power to grant Augmentations above the present Minimum, and therefore there is no Occasion to apply to Parliament, to increase it. In Answer to which, it is to be remarked, That notwithstanding the discretionary Power lodged with this Court, there are still Hundreds of very small Stipends in *Scotland*; which must arise not only from the certain Expence incur'd by a Minister's bringing a Suit for Augmentation of his Stipend, but also from the Uncertainty of his obtaining any more than the present Minimum: Whereas, by a Law increasing the Minimum, the Ministers might depend upon obtaining a competent and suitable Maintenance.

And this seems to be more necessary, because it is a Rule or Measure of Procedure laid down by the Court of Session, That they will grant no Augmentation to any Minister, whose Stipend has been established by a Decree since the Union; tho' it must be acknowledged, that the Increase of the Expence of Living has arose chiefly since that happy Period.

A farther Objection often urged against this Application to Parliament, is, That it is an Attack upon the Property of these Land Owners who are now possessed of the

the Tythes. But in Answer to this, it hath been already observed, That those who are possessed of Tythes, possess them with the express Burden of such future Augmentations of Stipend as shall be found necessary for the suitable Maintenance of the Clergy. In Consequence whereof, it is to be considered, That the Court of Session have, by their discretionary Power, often granted Augmentations out of this very Fund beyond the present Minimum; and yet it was never pretended, that by so doing they have incroached upon the Property of the Land Owners. And as it was no Incroachment upon the Property of the Land Owners to increase the Minimum, by Authority of Parliament, *Anno 1633*, to Eight Chalders from Five, which was the Minimum sixteen Years before, it can as little be an Invasion on their Property, if a *British* Parliament should, upon the most reasonable Considerations, extend that Minimum now beyond what had been established 117 Years ago.

The only remaining Objection which seems to have any Colour of Argument, is, That there are a great Number of the Clergy in *England* who are worse provided for than any of the Clergy in *Scotland*. But it is obvious, That the Constitution of the

the two Churches, and the Nature of their Benefices are so different as to render the Comparison of little Effect. The highest Livings in *Scotland* do not exceed 139*l.*. about One Half of them are under 55*l.*. many are under 40*l.* and some under 30*l.* ---Ministers in *Scotland* have no Pluralities nor Fees of any Kind---Their Stipends, such as they be, are the only Fund of living they have to trust to. But the most manifest Difference is, That the Tythes in *England* are either impropriated, or in the Hands of the Clergy ; whereas the Tythes in *Scotland* are by Law left open for Augmentation of Ministers Stipends. Besides Queen *Anne's* Bounty is a growing Fund for augmenting poor Livings in *England*, but there is no Provision of this Kind in *Scotland*.

Upon the Whole, were the Ministers of *Scotland* allowed a more decent Maintenance, it would be an Encouragement to Gentlemen capable of giving their Sons a liberal Education, to breed them up for the Ministry ; which would establish a nearer Connection between the Landed Interest and the Clergy : It would give their Instructions a greater Weight, and make them a greater Ballance against the *Jacobite* Interest in their Parishes : It would en-

able them to encourage and animate their People to honest Industry, and to inspire them with true Sentiments of Liberty, and with Zeal for the Government. For without disparaging the Zeal and Loyalty of any of that Order, it may justly be affirmed, that such Ministers who had the most liberal Education, and whose Minds were most enlarged with valuable Knowledge and just Notions of Liberty, were the Persons who distinguished themselves by the most active Zeal in the Time of the last Rebellion, in rousing the People to make a noble Stand for the best of Governments, in Opposition to arbitrary Power, and a Popish Pretender.

Nor is it possible, without a more decent Maintenance, to acquire that Learning which is necessary to defend the Christian Religion against spreading Infidelity, and the Protestant Faith against Popish Emissaries, who are restless in their Endeavours to corrupt the Minds of the People. If the Clergy become ignorant they will soon turn enthusiastick, and incapable of answering the great Ends of their Function. They see Learning declining among them every Day, and young Men of Spirit going off to other Employments. And as the Education of Children

Children depends upon their Parents, it is not to be imagined they will educate their Sons, at a great Expence and long Attendance, to the Ministry, when other Employments at less Charge, and in a shorter Time can afford them a better Maintenance.

As nothing can be expected from a poor, ignorant, and mean Clergy, it is hoped, that the Noblemen and Gentlemen of *Scotland* will have the Honour of their Country, once famous for Religion and Learning, so much at Heart, as to desire they may always have a pious, learned, and loyal Clergy, placed in such Circumstances, as to be under no Temptation of depending upon those who are disaffected to the Government: Especially when all this may be done at the Expence of so small a Sum.

They have hitherto been distinguished for their firm Attachment to His Majesty King *George* and his Royal Family, and hope in God they will always be so; some of them have ventured their Lives in that Cause; many have suffered in their Substance, and all have been remarkably loyal. They did their Duty, but they did it also with Zeal and Courage. They are the Object of the Hatred of the *Jacobites*,

bites, which they despise ; but would be unhappy indeed if they should be neglected by the Government, and not only insulted by its Enemies, but also disregarded by its Friends. The Consequence whereof must be, that being disappointed, they will be dispirited ; few will study for the Ministry ; some will give it up ; and those who continue in it, will, from the Meanness of their Circumstances, be incapable of having any prevailing Influence upon their People : For the poor Man's Wisdom is despised, and his Word is not heard.

APPENDIX.

A P P E N D I X.

N U M B E R I.

THE Committee do report, that, in
Return to the Letters and Queries
sent to the Presbyteries, they have re-
ceived Reports concerning seven Hundred
and eighty Benefices, and other Facts re-
specting the Parishes these belong to; from
which, together with the Account of
fifty three Stipends more, contained in
the attested Abstract from the Records of
the Commission of Teinds, they have
caused insert into a Book, which they
had ordered to be prepared for that Pur-
pose, a State of eight hundred and thirty
three Benefices, and other Facts relating
to these, reduced to proper distinct Co-
lumns. And from the said Scheme-
Book, the Committee have caused draw
out an Abstract of the principal Facts,
which is herein produced. From whence
it appears, that, of those eight hundred and
thirty three Benefices, separating what is
allowed

allowed for Communion-elements, there is one under *L. 25 Sterling*; three above *L. 25*, and not higher than *L. 30*; twelve above *L. 30*, and not higher than *L. 35*; twenty five above *L. 35*, and not higher than *L. 40*; one hundred and six above *L. 40*, and not higher than 45; one hundred and twenty six above *L. 45*, and not higher than *L. 50*; eighty four above *L. 50*, and not higher than *L. 55*; one hundred and nineteen above *L. 55*, and not higher than *L. 60*; ninety four above *L. 60*, and not higher than 65; one hundred and nineteen above *L. 65*, and not higher than *L. 70*; thirty eight above *L. 70*, and not higher than *L. 75*; twenty seven above *L. 75*, and not higher than *L. 80*; twenty two above *L. 80*, and not higher than *L. 85*; seven above *L. 85*, and not higher than *L. 90*; nine above *L. 90*, and not higher than *L. 95*; twelve above *L. 95*, and not higher than *L. 100*; three above *L. 100*, and not higher than *L. 105*; two above *L. 105*, and not higher than *L. 110*; eight above *L. 110*, and not higher than *L. 115*; sixteen of *L. 138 : 17 : 9 $\frac{4}{5}$: ---* And that the Total of these Benefices, deducing what is upon the whole allowed for Communion-elements, amounts to *L. 50,266 : 15 : 5 $\frac{1}{4}$* ; and

and in these are included Stipends that are not paid out of the Tithes. And it is to be observed, that fifty five are under the present legal *Minimum* of 800 Marks, or $44 : 8 : 10 \frac{1}{2}$ Sterling ; and one hundred and eighty two have no Allowance for Communion-elements.

N U M B. II.

Calculation made by the Committee of the late General Assembly, at their Meeting the 7th of November, 1749, shewing, at a Medium, the necessary annual Expence of a Minister's Family on the South-side of Forth ; in which it is supposed, that Ministers, one with another, have three Children, and that they are obliged to keep at least two Women-servants, and one Man.

L. s. d.

1^{mo}, **T**O the Expence of maintaining the three Servants *per Annum*, at 3 l. 12 s. each 10 16 0

2d^o

2 ^{do} , To the Wages of the two Women-servants, at 16s. 8d. each, every half Year, and 1l. 10s. for the half Year's Wages of the Man-servant, which is, <i>per Annum</i>	6 6 8
3 ^{tio} , To the Maintenance of the Minister, his Wife, and three Children, at no more than 1l. 12s. 6d. <i>per Quarter</i> each, which is, <i>per Annum</i>	32 10 0
4 ^{to} , For cloathing each of the above Five, one with another, <i>3l. per Annum</i>	15 0 0
5 ^{to} , To Coals, or other Fuel, Candle, Soap, and other Necessaries, yearly	8 0 0
6 ^{to} , To Advice of Physicians, and for Medicines, yearly	1 10 0
7 ^{mo} , To the annual Attendance on Meetings of Presbyteries and Synods, and Attendance on General Assemblies and their Comissions, one Year with another	3 10 0
8 ^{vo} , For buying Books, one Year with another	2 0 0
	3
	9 ^{no} , Bu

9^{no}, To the Education of three Children, supposed on the whole to cost 30*l.* each, that is, in all 90*l.* and consequently (seeing it appears from the Calculations relative to the Widows Scheme, that Ministers, one with another, live about thirty Years in the Ministry) the Children's Education may be computed, *per Annum*, at

3 0 0

10^{mo}, To Tear and Wear of Household-furniture, Bed and Table-linen, &c. *per Annum* 1 1 0

 83 12 8

N. B. Several other Articles of necessary Expence might have been mentioned; such as Charities, publick and private, Expence of Births and Burials, putting Children to Apprenticeships, and enabling them to do for themselves; which will vastly more than overbalance any Advantage that may be supposed to arise from the present Glebes, and any small Profit of Servants Work, when not employed about the necessary 9^{no}, Business of the Family.

E

From

From the preceding Calculation it appears, that 1000*l. Scots*, or 8*l. 6s. 8d. Ster.* is in general necessary for the Support and Maintenance of a Minister's Family on the South of *Forth*; and from thence it plainly follows, that 10 Chalder of Victual, Oat-Meal, and Bear, or the Value of it in Money, according to the usual Conversion in the Sale of Lands, in the Parts of the Country where the respective Parishes lye, is no more than a moderate Provision for Ministers all over *Scotland*; because, in such Places where the Expence of Living may be supposed to be lower, it will hold in general, that the Value of the Victual will be proportionally less than 100*l. Scots*, or 8*l. 6s. 8d. Ster.* the Chalder; and it is well known that, in several Places of *Scotland*, 10 Chalders of Victual are not of more Value than 1000 Merks, or 55*l. 11s. 1*1/3*d. Ster.*

Ordered, That the above Account be printed, and Copies thereof transmitted to the several Presbyteries.

F I N I S.

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